IPC - Reports

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6 November 1968

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief, Information Processing Staff, OPPB

SUBJECT   : Proposed Computer Application Registry

1. I solicited reactions within the Office to both the concept and the specific elements in your outline; what follows came principally from Doug and Harry. My over-reaction you have heard on two occasions. To bring it back into focus: I am <u>very</u> concerned that users and user management are capitalizing on a "free service"; that the validation process be tightened; that far better problem definition occur as distinct from brute force use of the computer; that procedures involving new ADP support projects include more documented justification and serious consideration of alternatives. I feel, strongly, that we should consider charging for service in some way or, at least, gather cost information on project support to feed back to user management--hence PRISM. But I am not convinced that an applications register, maintained in OPPB, is necessary or desirable. I do feel that line management within each directorate should be sufficiently concerned to organize its own information for planning and budgeting purposes to be responsive to specific questions from Col. White or OPPB. And I feel that there is sufficient mechanism now to provide for Agency-wide utilization of a product, program or technique developed in one directorate.
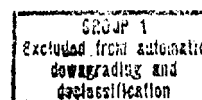
2. The comments obtained came in the form of questions, as follows:

<u>General</u>

--Purpose of the Registry?

--When in the life of an application is a registry entry prepared?

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> GROUP 1
> Excluded from automatic
> downgrading and
> declassification

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- 2 -

--How is the Registry to be maintained?

--Nothing on purpose/function of an application?

--How is an application defined?

--Who is to supply what information?

--What would "they" do with this information if "they" had it?

Specific elements

No. 2: Organization? Individual(s)?

No. 3: "Processor(s)"= OCS, e.g.?

No. 5: Many S&T applications don't generate reports.

No. 7: May application be assigned to more than one type?

No. 9: Many applications not file oriented but process oriented. File data would need to be dated--growth rate added?

No. 10: Programs to be identified--or just record number of?

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